Executive Committee for Highway Safety Seat Belt Working Group Meeting Minutes – Mtg. #3 September 28, 2004

Location:

GHSP Office, 215 E. Lane Street @ 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Darrell Jernigan Don Nail Jill Lucas Kelly Becker Lauren Marchetti Major Tom Adkins Stephen Lowry Bill Hall

Kelly Ransdall Terry Hopkins Cliff Braam

Scribe:

Cliff Braam

Minutes:

• The meeting began at approximately 1:10 p.m.

Task I – General Discussion

There was no new discussions or other issues that anyone wanted to bring forth.

Task II – New Direction for Strategies

Strategy Format

Cliff informed the group that the Executive Committee had changed the way in which strategies would be presented in the future. Previously, the working groups had been developing strategies and putting just enough information in them to allow the Executive Committee to make a well informed decision as to whether or not to move forward with the strategy.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, it was decided that the working groups would be responsible for prioritizing their strategies and then fully developing the strategy (with all necessary details) prior to it being presented to the committee.

Once the Executive Committee reviews and approves the strategy, the strategy will be sent to the "host" agency that will be responsible for seeing that it is implemented. The Executive Committee and the working groups will provide support as needed to help the host agency implement the strategy. The host agency will be the agency that would normally be responsible for the strategy, based upon its content. For example, for a strategy dealing with the implementation of rumble strips, the Department of Transportation will be the host agency.

The Executive Committee has also asked that each work group present one and no more than two strategies for consideration at each committee meeting.

Task III – Review and Refinement of Strategies

At the last meeting, two technical work groups were established to develop draft strategies for the top two priorities that had been picked by the group; 1) Adding Driver's License & Insurance Points for Seat Belt Violations and 2) Develop Target Education Campaigns.

Adding Driver's License & Insurance Points for Seat Belt Violations

Kimberly has begun the initial stages of drafting this strategy and will be working with Commissioner Long to get the details of what needs to be done in order to access insurance points for those who do not comply with the seat belt laws in the state.

Develop Target Education Campaigns

There was a lot of group discussion about this strategy and the technical work group assigned to this strategy had done some research into different possible topics. One issue that was brought before the work group was that the NC general statute that covers Driver Education (G.S. 20-88.1) outlines the requirements of driver education programs, but that these requirements are rather "bare bone" and outdated (the statute was last amended in 1997). For example, there is no requirement to discuss the Graduated License program that is now in effect in North Carolina. This was seen as an area that needed to be addressed. This technical working group will develop a strategy targeted at this concern.

The working group decided that their top strategy would be Adding Driver's License & Insurance Points for Seat Belt Violations and that the technical working group responsible for developing this strategy would get the strategy in final form so that it can be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting on October 20, 2004.

• The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 10th, 11:00 – 3:00, GHSP Office